

## BOOK REVIEWS

in microsurgery. He stresses that the needs of the community will be served only by a team effort. This textbook reflects the author's experience in the operating theater, wards and laboratory over ten years at St. Vincent's Hospital in Melbourne. According to the publisher's request for single authorship at this stage has made it possible to present the St. Vincent's Hospital experience in a very well-integrated manner.

Chapters on the history of the operating microscope and the development of microinstrumentation and microsutures begin the book. They are followed by a chapter on the organization of a microsurgical unit.

The key to microvascular surgery is explored in a small but well organized chapter on the pathophysiology of microvascular occlusions. Basic microvascular technique is next described with clear drawings augmenting the careful photography. It includes a section on the use of anticoagulants and is followed by a chapter on the histopathology of microvascular repairs. This last includes a fascinating section on the scanning electron microscopy of microvascular repair. The use of vein grafts in microvascular surgery is given a separate chapter.

The problems peculiar to anesthesia in microvascular surgery are discussed, the author pointing out that the chief problem is likely to be management of extensive blood loss.

Replantation surgery of limbs and digital replantation surgery are covered in two separate chapters and include protocols for determining the appropriateness of replantation for a particular patient, and the operating-room routine when replantation has been elected. The author points out that replanted hands are more useful and require less rehabilitation than unamputated hands which have suffered severe crushing or burning injuries, but he also cautions that if circulation has been established in the hand without revascularization of any of the forearm muscles, the surgeon should not persist with replantation and the arm should be amputated. He feels that the main indications for digital replantation are multiple digital injuries and single amputations of the thumb. He cautions that a decision to replant a single complete amputation in any finger, including the index finger requires a special circumstance in an adult. A useful addition here is the section on postoperative complications with their recognition and management.

One stage toe-to-hand transfer is examined with a section clarifying the vascular anatomy of the hallux and second toe. He confirms that loss of toes seems to cause little embarrassment in walking, even when the hallux with its metatarsophalangeal joint is removed.

In the chapter on microvascular free flap and ornamental transfers, the author has, in most of the cases shown, resisted the temptation to use a free flap where a pedicle flap would do as well or better. A particularly good looking result of the repair of the dorsum of the nose following basal cell carcinoma removal in an adult is shown, but one could hardly recommend this method for a surgeon less skilled than the author.

The challenging problems of microlymphatic surgery are discussed and very good results following lymphaticovenous anastomoses in the upper extremity are shown. Microvascular free bone and joint transfers are felt to have significant potential usefulness and free muscle transfers are discussed. A remarkably good result in facial palsy is shown. Microneural and funicular nerve repairs are evaluated, the author agreeing with most other contemporary writers that coaptation of at least some of the funiculae in larger nerves is desirable. Microneural grafting and cable grafting are also discussed. The microsurgery of miscellaneous tubes and

structures such as the fallopian tubes and vas are considered. Penile replantation is described, and the possibility of microvascular techniques in orchiopexy of the undescended testis is suggested. Experimental colon and small bowel transfers with microvascular anastomoses in dogs suggest another method for esophageal replacement. Microrenal transplantation in rats is presented as a useful research tool and coronary artery surgery is discussed briefly.

Textbooks presented by British publishers are well known for their clarity of writing and as such are a delight to the student. This book is no exception to that observation. For anyone considering work in microvascular surgery, it is well worth its asking price.

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**CLINICAL ORTHOPAEDIC EXAMINATION**—Ronald McRae, FRCS, Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon, Southern General Hospital, Glasgow; Honorary Clinical Lecturer in Orthopaedics, University of Glasgow; Lecturer in Surgery and Orthopaedics, Glasgow School of Occupational Therapy; Lecturer in Anatomy, Glasgow School of Chiropody; Fellow of the British Orthopaedic Association and Member of the Institute of Medical and Biological Illustration. Churchill Livingstone—Medical Division, Longman Inc., 19 West 44th St., New York City (10036), 1976. 219 pages, with original drawings by the author, \$11.50 (softbound).

This is a clear and concise, well written and illustrated book for orthopedic examination. It very well supplements the early teaching and experience of students, which may be lacking because of the unfortunate size of student classes and the dearth of adequate clinical material. Students, therefore, may have acquired only a sketchy knowledge of physical examination techniques for various conditions and the book offers a big help in developing procedures for arriving at diagnosis and treatment.

The author has divided the text according to anatomical areas, in so far as patients generally describe their complaints on an anatomical basis. He stresses that such an approach may not reveal the most obscure and hence will tax the most experienced, but the most frequent mistake is failure to diagnose the common. He wisely, in my opinion, has avoided excess details but gives specific and pertinent details for the common problems and advises consulting with recognized orthopedic textbooks for the more demanding readers seeking complete descriptions.

The illustrations are excellent anatomical drawings and point out important features dealing with inspection, palpation and examination of movements, both normal and abnormal, of specific joints and areas. Simple screening tests for such motions are included. There are excellent drawings showing segmental sensory nerve supply as well as motor supply for both upper and lower extremities. Radiographic drawings also are well done, showing numerous common abnormalities of injury and disease.

The final section shows radiographs of common pathological conditions in the segmental areas and is in the form of a diagnostic quiz with some history, important clinical findings for each case and answers given after.

I can highly recommend this book, especially for medical students, interns and residents. It also offers a quick review of clinical orthopedic examination for practicing physicians and surgeons.

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